

June 9, 2009

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Department of  
Public Instruction

Ms. Natalie Rew, Auditor  
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction  
P.O. Box 7841  
125 South Webster Street  
Madison, WI 53707-7841

RE: Qualified School Construction Bond "QSCB" Allocation

Dear Ms. Rew:

Please accept this letter as an application for a \$900,000 allocation of Qualified School Construction Bonds. The School District of North Fond du Lac appreciates the federal legislation and the support of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in making this interest free (or low interest) bond program available. The District seeks any part of the \$900,000 request that could possibly be available to us.

The District proposes to finance the following eligible projects:

**Repair and/or Rehabilitation:**

**1) Art Humphrey Field Bleacher Repair and Rehabilitation in the amount of \$300,000**

Art Humphrey Field is located on the grounds of the Friendship Learning Center in the Village of North Fond du Lac. It consists of a football field, home and away bleachers, concession area and track. It has long been the goal of the School District of North Fond du Lac to address the glaring needs at Art Humphrey Field in terms of bleacher rehabilitation and repair due to the extensive use the facility receives not only from middle and high school students but youth leagues and our community as well. Safety is indeed a concern for the District as we think about the dilapidated condition of the bleachers.

The current bleachers at Art Humphrey Field were purchased used in either 1973 or 1974 from the Whitefish Bay School District. Whitefish Bay was replacing their bleachers at the time and we purchased their existing ones, thus making the true age of the bleachers even greater. The metal framing of the bleachers as well as the wooden seating planks have deteriorated at a rapid pace over the years. The wooden seating was covered in vinyl in 2003 but that has not significantly slowed the decline.

A bleacher inspection that viewed the outdoor Humphrey Field bleachers was completed in 2007. At that time, the bleachers were considered to be out of code due to the fact they continue to deteriorate, are not enclosed, and have significant issues at points where bolts attach bracing to other bleacher pieces. Until this opportunity

presented itself, we have not been able to devise a way to fund this extensive project within our annual operating budget.

## **2) Art Humphrey Field Track Repair and Rehabilitation in the amount of \$600,000**

Another long term project of concern to the District has been the repair and rehabilitation of the track at Art Humphrey Field. The track was constructed at Art Humphrey Field in 1977. Periodic maintenance was ongoing through the early to mid 1990's when more significant patch work became a regular point of emphasis. Unfortunately, the track continued to decline to a level that does not allow for safe usage and accordingly, a competitive high school meet has not been held on the track since the year 2000. That being said, it has also not been used for practice or other student and/or community use since 2000 as well. The track surface and supportive blacktop has been removed and replaced in several places, causing unlevel conditions. Additionally, several depressions ranging between six to ten inches have made the running surface completely unsafe for student-athlete and community use. While students in the past found an inviting activity to include jumping the fence with their bikes to ride without permission on the track, that tradition has long ceased due to the bumpy and unsafe nature of the track surface. An interesting yet telling fact regarding the track's unsafe condition.

We've been told by contractors who have discussed what it would take to repair the track that one redeeming quality is that the track was properly canted to the outside for water drainage. That said, the only way to repair and rehabilitate the eight lane straightaway and remaining six lane track would be to rip the entire track out and start again from scratch. The price tag for such a project along with the addition of two lanes for three fourths of the track is such that the District has not been able to find the funds within the regular operating budget. The Qualified School Construction Bond program provides a sense of hope to us that we may be able to tackle this long desired project that would increase the safety and number of engaged students and community members in athletic and wellness activities.

The District's project plan will meet the following objectives:

### **Safe and Healthful Schools**

In reviewing the United States Department of Education webpage, the following four guidelines for projects were outlined "for modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities". I have attempted to outline that indeed our proposal in the School District of North Fond du Lac is in accordance with the expectations of Safe and Healthful Schools; an area also signified by the Department of Public Instruction for QSCB inclusion.

- 1. Is it educationally appropriate?** The repair and rehabilitation of these two areas will have a huge impact on physical education curriculum, athletic offerings, and community engagement. These projects have the ability to

enhance the level of educational opportunities that we can provide to our students and that our students deserve.

- 2. Is it neighborhood friendly?** The current Art Humphrey Field area, as depicted in the attached photographs, is in desperate need of repair and rehabilitation. The entire area is surrounded by homes whose backyards adjoin to the Art Humphrey Field area. In speaking with these community members, the repair and rehabilitation of this area would be welcomed and provide an aesthetic improvement to surrounding neighbors. They also recognize the increased functionality that would benefit our student and the community as a whole.
- 3. Is it environmentally sound?** This project will focus on creating a secure and environmentally friendly solution to student and spectator safety. Recycled materials will most likely be used in the construction of the new track surface along with the assurance of proper disposal of the existing surface and bleachers. We also plan to recycle a portion of the existing bleacher frames to construct code appropriate visitor side bleachers covered in new aluminum planking, railings and fencing. Wheelchair access ramps and handicap seating, which currently do not exist, will also be added for increased accessibility to our students, parents, and community members.
- 4. What is its long term impact?** This project is one that has the potential to take the School District of North Fond du Lac to another level of excellence on many fronts. As stated earlier, this opportunity provides the resources needed for a project that otherwise can not be completed. It will allow for the District to have a safer and more usable environment at Art Humphrey Field for many years to come. It holds the ability to increase athletic and community wellness participation; not to mention pride in the district and community as a whole.

The District has the borrowing authority via: A Fund 38 Borrowing Resolution was approved by the Board of Education on May 26, 2009.

**Estimated Construction start date:** The District will begin these projects as soon as possible. A challenge will be that football season will be starting shortly after the District learns of whether we shall receive these funds on the projected date of August 1st. That will make rehabilitation and repair of both the bleachers and track not possible until after the football season is complete in mid-October. Our goal would be to begin the project at that time pending outdoor weather. Regardless of initial start date, the District affirms that the project will be completed by and/or during the spring of 2010 at the very latest. With this timeline, we would certainly meet the requirement of a binding commitment to spend at least 10% of the available project proceeds within the first six months as well as ensure all funds are spent well within the three year window. We believe our projects are "shovel ready" and will fulfill the intended goal of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act "ARRA" Stimulus Bill by creating or maintaining jobs on and near the construction worksite. We also feel that our project meets the longer-term goal of "reinvesting" in our local community by

improving the public infrastructure that serves our citizens in an energy-efficient and sustainable manner.

Additionally, the District is confident that these projects will adhere to the "Prevailing Wage" requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act. Every step will be taken with our construction manager and project staffs to ensure all reporting requirements are met.

Discussions of program details are currently underway at committee and school board level and we are working closely with our financial advisor and bond counsel. We believe we have met the requirements for participation in the Qualified School Construction Bond program and your review of our request for an allocation is sincerely appreciated. We eagerly anticipate your decision and our hopeful inclusion.

Please feel free to contact me or Wendy Johnson, Business Manager, at (920) 929-3750 if you have questions or additional information is desired.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Sebert".

James Sebert, Ed.D  
Superintendent

Enclosures:

- Board of Education Meeting Minutes depicting Borrowing Authority Resolution
- Pictures of the Art Humphrey Field area
- Drawings of the proposed bleacher rehabilitation and repair

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NORTH FOND DU LAC**  
**MINUTES – BOARD OF EDUCATION**

May 26, 2009  
District Meeting Room

- A.** The regular May Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President John Duffy.

**B. Roll Call**

Roll Call-Board Present: Duffy, Goldapske, Haase, Hock, Kissinger

Administration Present: Cowling, Ellingen, McGill, Sadoff, Sebert

Absent: Johnson

Guests Present: See Attached Sheet

**C. Report on Public Notice**

James Sebert reported that Public Notices and Agendas had been mailed to the Fond du Lac Reporter, Radio Station KFIZ/KFIZ 107, WFDL Radio; and agendas were posted in the District Office, US Bank, and the Municipal Building on Thursday, May 21, 2009.

- D. Pledge of allegiance** was led by John Duffy.

**E. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of 04/27/2009 were approved as printed.

Minutes of the Executive Meeting of 04/27/2009 were approved as printed.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of 04/30/2009 were approved as printed.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of 05/06/2009 were approved as printed.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of 05/07/2009 were approved as printed.

**F. Treasurer's Report**

Moved by Hock, seconded by Kissinger, to approve the **List of Bills #11** in the amount of \$1,192,779.12. Motion carried 5-0.

**G. Clerk's Report**

A thank you note was read from Kathy Davies & family.

**H. Student Council Report**

Tu Vang presented the Student Council Report.

**I. Citizen Input**

The public portion of the meeting was declared open at 7:04 p.m. by President John Duffy. There was no public input. The public portion was declared closed at 7:05 p.m.

**J. Superintendent's Report**

**K. New Business**

Moved by Duffy, seconded by Haase, to approve the lease of the ELC classrooms by Arts for Kids from June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010. Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Kissinger, seconded by Goldapske, to authorize the renewal of WIAA membership for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Duffy, seconded by Haase, to approve the 2009-2010 Bessie Allen Middle School handbook. Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Haase, seconded by Goldapske, to approve the 2009-2010 Horace Mann High School handbook. Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Kissinger, seconded by Duffy, to approve the contract for Pat Kolbe as Physical Education teacher at Horace Mann High School for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Duffy, seconded by Goldapske, to approve the coaching contracts for Adam Broten as 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls and Boys basketball coach and Zach Ruch as weightlifting coach at Horace Mann High School. Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Kissinger, seconded by Haase, to approve summer school contracts for designated teaching staff for the 2009 summer program. Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Kissinger, seconded by Duffy, authorize a resolution to issue a non-referendum debt under Fund 38 not to exceed \$900,000 for the purpose of bleacher and track repair & rehabilitation at Art Humphrey Field under the distinction of Safe & Healthful Schools via the Qualified School Construction Bond Program created by the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act. Motion carried 5-0. ✓

**L. Executive Session**

Moved by Duffy, seconded by Kissinger, to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:57 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

**M. Reconvene in Open Session**

Moved by Duffy, seconded by Haase, to reconvene in Open Session at 10:50 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Kissinger, seconded by Haase, to adopt the Administrator's contract for Aaron Sadoff as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

**N. Adjourn**

Moved by Duffy, seconded by Kissinger to adjourn at 10:54 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.